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PATENT APPLICATION

Docket No. 11675.99.2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In application of

Phillip J. Ireland et al.

Serial No.: 10/034,236

Filed: December 28, 2001

For: METHOD OF MAKING A CONTACT STRUCTURE

Examiner: H. Jey Tsai

Confirmation No.: 9992

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Mail Stop Petitions
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please find, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1), the enclosed Form PTO-1449 which contains a list of all patents, publications, or other items that have come to the attention of one or more of the individuals designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c). While no representation is made that any of these references may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103, the enclosed list of references is disclosed so as to fully comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

Moreover, while no representation is made that a specific search of office files or patent office records has been conducted or that no better art exists, the undersigned attorney of record believes that the enclosed art is the closest to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) of

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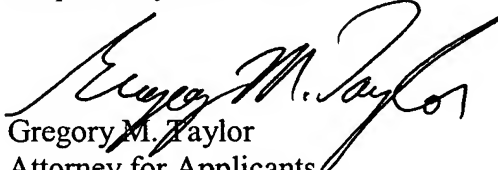
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which the undersigned is presently aware, and no art which is closer to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) has been knowingly withheld.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, a copy of each of the listed references or relevant portion thereof is also enclosed.

DATED this 8th day of August 2003.

Respectfully submitted,


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Group: 2812

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATIONS MADE BY APPLICANTU.S. Patent Documents

| <u>Examiner Initial*</u> | <u>Document Number</u> | <u>Issue Date</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Class</u> | <u>Sub Class</u> |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------|------------------|
| ____ 1 | 5,498,562 | 03/12/96 | Dennison et al. | 437 | 52 |
| ____ 2 | 5,500,384 | 03/19/96 | Melzner | 437 | 60 |
| ____ 3 | 5,605,857 | 02/25/97 | Jost et al. | 437 | 60 |
| ____ 4 | 5,770,498 | 06/23/98 | Becker | 438 | 239 |
| ____ 5 | 6,008,085 | 12/28/99 | Sung et al. | 438 | 253 |

References Cited by Applicants

While the filing of Information Disclosure Statements is voluntary, the procedure is governed by the guidelines of Section 609 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. To be considered a proper Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449 shall be accompanied by a copy of each listed patent or publication or other item of information and a translation of the pertinent portions of foreign documents (if an existing translation is readily available to the applicant), an explanation of relevance of each reference not in the English language, and should be submitted in a timely manner as set out in MPEP Sec. 609.

Examiners will consider all citations submitted in conformance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and MPEP Sec. 609 and place their initials adjacent the citations in the spaces provided on this form. Examiners will also initial citations not in conformance with the guidelines which may have been considered. A reference may be considered by the Examiner for any reason whether or not the citation is in full conformance with the guidelines. A line will be drawn through a citation if it is not in conformance with the guidelines AND has not been considered. A copy of the submitted form, as reviewed by the Examiner, will be returned to the applicant with the next communication. The original of the form will be entered into the application file.

Each citation initialed by the Examiner will be printed on the issued patent in the same manner as references cited by the Examiner on Form PTO-892.

The reference designations "A1," "A2," etc. (referring to Applicant's reference 1, Applicant's reference 2, etc.) will be used by the Examiner in the same manner as Examiner's reference designations "A," "B," "C," etc. on Office Action Form PTO-1142.

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